

Application No. 10/056,336
Amendment dated January 23, 2006
Reply to Office Action of November 14, 2005

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-30 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 8, 12, 14, 18 and 19 have been amended and claims 25, 29, and 30 have been cancelled. Reconsideration of the rejections of all claims and allowance are earnestly solicited in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,466,237 to Miyao *et al.* (hereinafter Miyao) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,144,388 to Bornstein (hereinafter Bornstein). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to claims 1 and 19, the prior art, including Miyao and Bornstein fails to disclose, among other things, "the first and second component images relate to components of a product" . . . and "determining whether said first component image and said second component images are compatible."

Bornstein discloses processes to generate two-dimensional images of clothing on an image of a person. US 6, 144, 388 issued on Nov. 7, 2000, col. 1, ll. 4-15. Bornstein further discloses converting a three-dimensional model of a selected article of clothing into a two dimensional image. *Id.* at col. 2, ll. 50-60. The conversion includes generating a two-dimensional image that reflects the texture, color, opacity, and bump maps of the three-dimensional model of the selected article of clothing. *Id.* at col. 4, ll. 5-15.

Miyao discloses display techniques for thumbnail files having a three-dimensional configuration. US 6, 466, 237 issued Oct. 15, 2002, col., 2, ll. 15-30. Miyao further discloses the ability to rotate the thumbnail images around an axis. *Id.* at col. 37, ll. 30-45. The rotation may be display a collection of thumbnails in the form of a three-dimensional ring. *Id.* at col. 11, ll. 40-50.

Unlike Bornstein and Miyao, embodiments of the present invention generate image configurations related to a product. The image configurations include a first and second component images that relate to the product. Additionally, the first and second component images are processed

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to ensure that the images are compatible. Accordingly, the image configuration includes compatible component images.

Accordingly, the Office failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness because Bornstein and Miyao, individually and in combination fails to disclose or suggest all the limitations of the claimed invention. See MPEP 2142 (2005). Therefore, for at least the foregoing reasons, claims 1 and 19 are allowable over Bornstein and Miyao and, the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1 and 19 should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-7 and 20-24 depend on independent claims 1 and 19 and are allowable at least by virtue of their dependence on claims 1 and 19. For at least the foregoing reasons, the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 2-7 and 20-24 should be withdrawn.

With respect to claims 8 and 14, the prior art, including Miyao and Bornstein fails to disclose, among other things, "automatically detecting and correcting incompatible component image selections."

As discussed above, Bornstein is directed to converting three-dimensional model to two-dimensional representations that are displayed on a two-dimensional image of a person, while Miyao discloses display techniques to generate rotations of three-dimensional thumbnails.

Unlike Bornstein and Miyao, embodiments of the present invention processes a selection of a component image to correct incompatible image selections by replacing the selections with appropriate image components as illustrated by FIG. 21 of applicant's specification.

Accordingly, the Office failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness because Bornstein and Miyao, individually and in combination fails to disclose or suggest all the limitations of the claimed invention. See MPEP 2142 (2005). Therefore, for at least the foregoing reasons, claims 8 and 14 are allowable over Bornstein and Miyao and, the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 8 and 14 should be withdrawn.

Claims 9-11, 15-17, 26 and 28 depend on independent claims 8 and 14 and are allowable at least by virtue of their dependence on claims 8 and 14. For at least the foregoing reasons, the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 9-11, 15-17, 26 and 28 should be withdrawn.

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With respect to claims 12, the prior art, including Miyao and Bornstein fails to disclose, among other things, "a compatibility component which generates notification when component images of the configured image conflict."

As discussed above, Bornstein is directed to converting three-dimensional model to two-dimensional representations that are displayed on a two-dimensional image of a person, while Miyao discloses display techniques to generate rotations of three-dimensional thumbnails.

Unlike Bornstein and Miyao, embodiments of the present invention, as illustrated by FIG 21 of applicant's specification, utilize a compatibility component that processes a selection of a component image to generate notifications when incompatible image selections are made.

Accordingly, the Office failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness because Bornstein and Miyao, individually and in combination fails to disclose or suggest all the limitations of the claimed invention. See MPEP 2142 (2005). Therefore, for at least the foregoing reasons, claim 12 is allowable over Bornstein and Miyao and, the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 12 should be withdrawn.

Claims 13 and 27 depend on independent claim 12 and are allowable at least by virtue of their dependence on claims 12. For at least the foregoing reasons, the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 13 and 27 should be withdrawn.

With respect to claim 18, the prior art, including Miyao and Bornstein fails to disclose, among other things, "a compatibility table, said compatibility table containing entries indicative of replacement component images of the one or more component images."

As discussed above, Bornstein is directed to converting three-dimensional model to two-dimensional representations that are displayed on a two-dimensional image of a person, while Miyao discloses display techniques to generate rotations of three-dimensional thumbnails.

Unlike Bornstein and Miyao, embodiments of the present invention, as illustrated by FIG 21 of applicant's specification, utilize a compatibility table to select replacement after possessing a selection of a component image to determine if an incompatible image selection was made.

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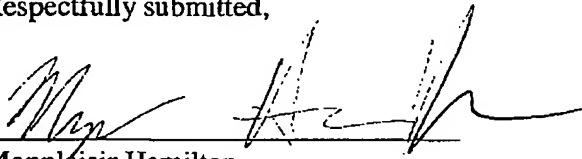
Accordingly, the Office failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness because Bornstein and Miyao, individually and in combination fails to disclose or suggest all the limitations of the claimed invention. See MPEP 2142 (2005). Therefore, for at least the foregoing reasons, claim 18 is allowable over Bornstein and Miyao and, the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claim 18 should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

As set forth above, applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that this application be allowed and passed to issue. Should, however, any issues remain prior to issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned to resolve the same. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 21-0765.

Respectfully submitted,

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